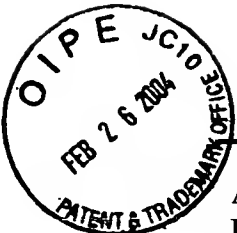


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3/13/04



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/997,602
Filed: November 29, 2001
Inventor(s):
Lanzatella, et al.

§ Examiner: Alaubaidi, Haythim
§ J
§ Group/Art Unit: 2171
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5760-16700
§
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Title: Methods, Function Data,
and Systems to Represent a
Storage Environment

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

B. Noël Kivlin

Printed Name

B.

February 20, 2004

Signature

Date

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF
NOVEMBER 20, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 01 2004

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of November 20, 2003, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.